

REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the claims herein are presented to clarify the subject matter claimed, broaden the subject matter claimed, and/or claim identical subject matter in a more appealing format. It is not the Applicant's intent to narrow any claim element by the amendments made herein. It is submitted that no new matter has been added. A marked-up copy of all pending claims after the amendments made herein is attached to this Preliminary Amendment as Exhibit A.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the thorough and complete examination of this application and earnestly solicits an early notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Exhibit A

1. (Amended) A communications system comprising:

at least one communications server associated with at least one communications network[, and];

at least one communications terminal[, wherein a server and a terminal form] connected to the communications network to form a client-server relationship with the at least one communications server;[, characterised by]

at least one policy definition point associated with [a] said at least one communications server, said policy definition point defining policies for services, authentication, authorization, and accounting[,]; and

at least one policy enforcement point associated with [a] said at least one communications terminal, wherein said policy enforcement point is [arranged for enforcing] operable to enforce on said communications terminal the policies defined in said policy definition point.

2. (Cancel)

3.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said policy enforcement point includes means for enforcing policies pertaining to services, authentication, authorization and accounting.

4.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said policy enforcement point [recites] resides in said at least one communications terminal as a local policy enforcement point.

5.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said at least one communications terminal is [arranged for supporting] operable to support several simultaneously ongoing independent client-server relationships.

6.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, further comprising at least two mutually heterogeneous communication networks [being mutually heterogeneous], wherein said at least one communications terminal is [arranged for exchanging] operable to exchange information with said at least two mutually heterogeneous communication networks [being mutually heterogeneous].

7.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said policy definition point is associated with [a] at least one cluster of said at least one communications server[s].

8.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim [6] 7, wherein said policy definition point includes means for enacting policies in [a plurality of service clusters] said at least one cluster of servers.

9.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said policy enforcement point includes means for enforcing a plurality of policies emanating from a plurality of networks and service providers.

10. (Cancel)

11. (Cancel)

12.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said policy definition point includes a global location register indicating in [what access] which of said at least one communications network said at least one communications terminal [is residing in] resides.

13.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said policy definition point further includes a subscriber database including means for storing subscriber IP addresses and encryption keys for each of [said] a plurality of subscribers.

14.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, [wherein said communications system includes] further comprising a credential verifier providing means for anonymous payment of access for at least one of said at least one communications network[s].

15.(Amended) [A] The communications system according to claim 1, wherein said client-server relationship is provided by a transparent packet pipe transporting and classifying packets according to Quality of Service.

16.(Amended) A method for global roaming in a communications system [including at least one communications server associated with at least one communications network, and at least one communications terminal, wherein a server and a terminal form a client-server relationship, characterised by at least one policy definition point, associated with a server, and at least one policy enforcement point, associated with a terminal, wherein said policy enforcement point is arranged for enforcing policies defined in said policy definition point] , said method comprising the steps of:

forming a client-server relationship between at least one communications terminal and at least one communications server associated with at least one communications network;
defining policies pertaining to services authentication, authorization, and accounting; and
enforcing the defined policies at a policy enforcement point associated with the
communications terminal.

17.(Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of defining policies in said policy definition point pertaining to services, authentication, authorization and accounting.

18. (Cancel)

19.(Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of [wherein said policy definition point is] defining, by said policy definition point, said policies in a plurality of server clusters.

20. (Cancel)

21.(Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of storing in said policy definition point subscriber IP addresses and encryption keys for each of [said] a plurality of subscribers.

22.(Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of providing [wherein] said client-server relationship [is provided] by transporting and classifying packets according to Quality of Service.

23.(Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of providing separate charging mechanisms for access and services[,] for client-server based transactions.

24.(Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of defining a policy domain having multiple policy blocks, each containing a specific relationship between a client and said at least one communications server.

25.(Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

entering [wherein] said policies [are entered] in said policy enforcement point by a service provider[,]; and

updating [of] said policies.

26. (New) A method for anonymous payment of a subscriber for a service of a network, said method comprising the steps of:

requesting a service by a subscriber using a mobile terminal;

transmitting encrypted payment information from the mobile terminal to an access node;

reading, by the access node, the encrypted payment information;

adding, by the access node, a transaction number to the encrypted payment information;

transmitting the encrypted payment information from the access node to a credential

verifier server identified in the payment information;

decrypting, by the credential verifier server, the encrypted payment information;

verifying, by the credential verifier server, whether the decrypted payment information is correct;

transmitting the transaction number and a positive acknowledgment from the credential verifier server to the access node;

transmitting a message including an IP address and the positive acknowledgment from the access node to the mobile terminal; and

storing in a policy enforcement point the IP address associated with the service requested

by the subscriber.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising the step of the policy enforcement point enabling the service requested by the subscriber.

28. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising the steps of:

monitoring the transactions of the subscriber using the service; and
storing the transactions as accounting information.

29. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising the step of ending the requested service by transmitting an end session message.

30. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising the steps of:

sending the accounting information from the policy enforcement node to a secure mobile portal;

comparing the sent accounting information with accounting information generated in the secure mobile portal;

sending a positive accounting confirmation if the sent and generated accounting information correspond; and

sending a negative accounting confirmation if the sent and generated accounting information do not correspond.

31. (New) A communications system comprising:

 a policy definition point for defining policies for services, authentication, authorization, and accounting;

 a policy enforcement point for enforcing the defined policies of a subscriber;

 an access node for reading a credential verifier from a packet received from a mobile terminal, adding a transaction number to the credential verifier, and forwarding the packet to the credential verifier specified in the packet;

 a credential verifier for granting access to a particular service requested from the mobile terminal; and

 a communications network for transporting data between said policy definition point, said policy enforcement point, said access node, and said credential verifier.

32. (New) the communications system of claim 31, wherein said policy enforcement point further comprises:

 an authorization database for storing the policies defined in the policy definition point;

 a policy enforcement point key for identifying the policy enforcement point to the policy definition point;

 an authentication database for authenticating the subscriber and allowing access to the policy enforcement point; and

 an accounting log for storing accounting information related to the service requested by the subscriber.